

Super Typhoon Zeb (18W)

Super Typhoon (STY) Zeb (18W) formed in early October in the monsoon trough southeast of Guam and moved northwest passing over northern Luzon, then north and northeast passing east of Taiwan and over all four of the main Japanese islands. During its transit through the Philippine Sea, this cyclone attained super typhoon intensity of 155 kt just prior to a northern Luzon landfall.

A TCFA was issued on 090630Z October for a tropical disturbance located southeast of Guam. The first warning was issued at 092100Z October when the cyclone was southwest of Guam.

The cyclone intensified to tropical storm strength as it moved north of Yap Island. During intensification, the WSR-88D radar on Guam detected another cyclone embedded in the inflow. This new cyclone was warned on as TS Alex (19W).

TS Zeb (18W) was upgraded to a typhoon at 111800Z October. Zeb attained super typhoon intensity on 130000Z October and reached a peak intensity of 155 kt prior to landfall in the Philippines just south of Palanan Bay, Luzon Island. During passage over northern Luzon, STY Zeb (18W) began to weaken and moved north toward Taiwan. After passing just 10 nm east of Taiwan, the cyclone moved northeast and accelerated. The forward motion of the cyclone reached 48 kt as STY Zeb (18W) underwent extratropical transition over southern Japan and the Sea of Japan. The final warning was issued at 180300Z October.

STY Zeb (18W) was the first of two super typhoons to strike Luzon within 7 days (STY Babs (20W) was the second). STY Zeb caused 74 deaths in Luzon and 25 fatalities in Taiwan.

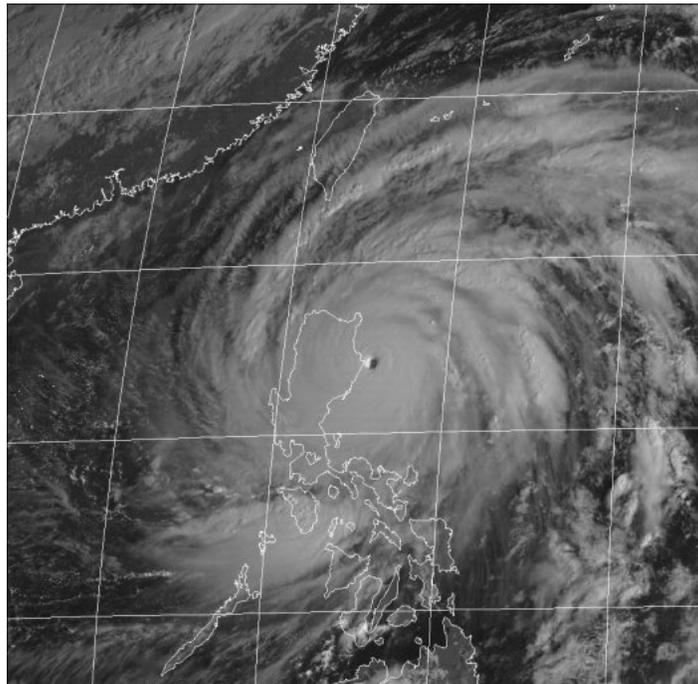


Figure 3-18-1. Super Typhoon Zeb (18W) at 155 kt intensity just before landfall over northern Luzon.

